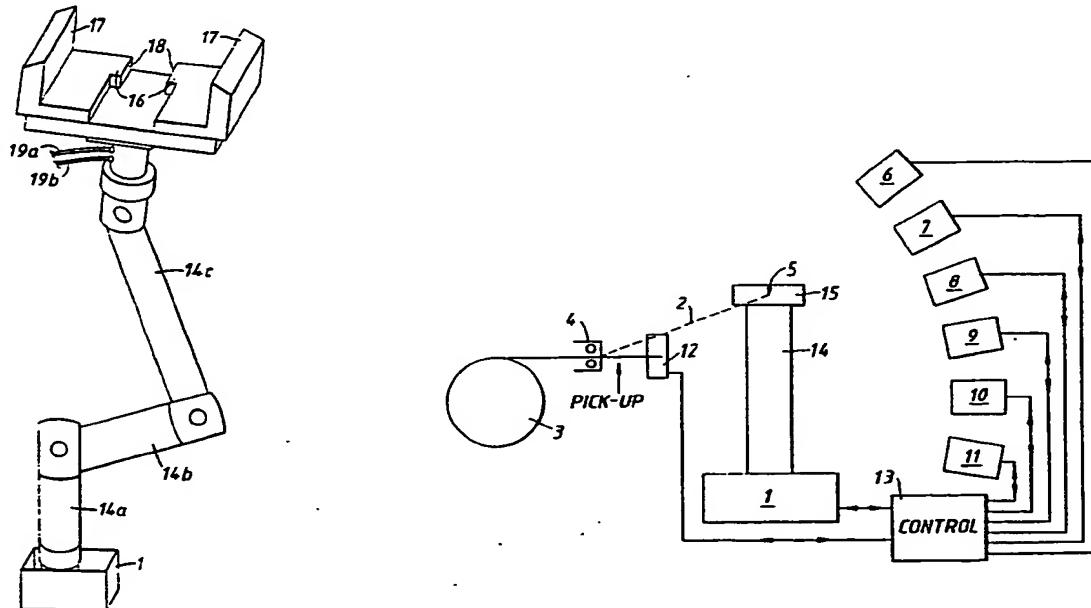




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(54) Title: OPTICAL FIBRE HANDLING



(57) Abstract

An automated optical fibre processing system in which a robot (1) conducts a fibre end to various workstations (7 to 11) where cutting, cleaving, cleaning, stripping and testing take place. To achieve exact fibre positioning during processing the fibre can be located in a cartridge at station (6) that provides a datum for operations on the fibre. The cartridge may be independent, part of the robot arm or part of a workstation. A control device (13) controls the take up of the fibre by the robot gripper (15) as well as movement to workstations and operations of the processes at the workstation.